



Attorney Docket: 381AS/50328
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hidetoshi NISHI et al.

Serial No.: 09/942,039

Examiner: J. Goetz

Filed: August 30, 2001

Art Unit: 3725

Title: ROLLING METHOD FOR STRIP ROLLING MILL AND STRIP ROLLING EQUIPMENT

REPLY

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 16, 2002
(Paper No. 7), kindly amend this application as follows.

Please replace the abstract of the disclosure appearing on page 35 of the application with the new abstract of the disclosure attached to this Reply.

Please cancel claims 3 and 10.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4-9, and 11-21 as follows. A marked-up version of the amended claims showing the changes made is included at the end of this Reply.

1. (Amended) A rolling method for rolling a strip of material with a constant width in a strip rolling mill, the strip rolling mill including a pair of upper and lower work rolls for rolling the strip of material, intermediate rolls for supporting